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NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION SURVEY

The Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) would like to inform the public that the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is piloting the National Immunization Survey (NIS) in Guam for the first time. Beginning mid-April 2013, CDC's contractor, NORC at the University of Chicago, will administer the Guam 2013 NIS. This survey is intended to help assess the immunization coverage among children 19 – 35 months of age, and adolescents between the ages of 13 – 17 years old. Therefore, we ask the public to please cooperate if called, because the information collected is important.

SOME FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the National Immunization Survey (NIS)?

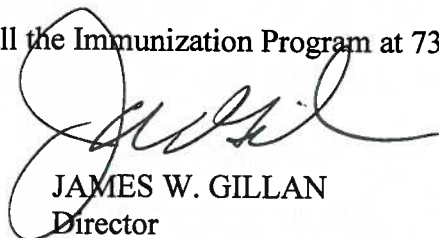
The NIS is a random digital-dial telephone survey used to find households with children between the ages of 19 – 35 months or 13 – 17 years of age living in the home. Parents or guardians will be asked to provide information on the date and type of vaccinations given to their children. At the end of the interview, authorization to contact their child's vaccination provider will be requested from the parent or guardian. The health care provider will then be contacted by mail to verify the child's vaccinations. All data collected will be sent to the CDC for analysis and then provided to the DPHSS, Immunization Program to compare Guam's vaccination rates with those of other states and territories.

How is the NIS information used?

The data gathered by the NIS is used to identify groups at risk for vaccine-preventable diseases; to provide feedback in an effort to increase the immunization coverage; and to evaluate the effectiveness of programs designed to increase Guam's immunization coverage.

How can I learn more about the NIS?

For additional information on the NIS, please call the Immunization Program at 735-7143.



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